

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07

EUR-12 OIC-02 EB-07 /118 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:RAPECK:EK

APPROVED BY IO:SWLEWIS

IO:JABAKER

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P R 030245Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 294538

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, AORG, UN, IN

SUBJECT:PROPOSAL FOR UN TO PAY COSTS OF CONFERENCES IN
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

1. IN A MEETING WITH INDIAN AMBASSADOR KEWAL SINGH NOV-
EMBER 30, IO ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS RAISED QUESTION
OF EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE IN FIFTH COMMITTEE TO HAVE UN
PICK UP COSTS OF UN CONFERENCES HELD IN THE DEVELOPING
WORLD. LEWIS SAID WE OPPOSED THIS PROPOSAL NOT ONLY
BECAUSE OF CONSIDERATIONS OF ECONOMY, BUT ALSO BECAUSE
IT WOULD RESULT IN AN EXTRAORDINARY DRAIN ON THE HUMAN
RESOURCES OF THE SECRETARIAT. WE BELIEVE THIS ARRANGE-
MENT WOULD ENCOURAGE SMALLER NATIONS TO VIE FOR UN
CONFERENCES, AND THAT THIS COULD RESULT IN UNDER-
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UTILIZATION OF EXPENSIVE UN PERMANENT FACILITIES IN NEW

YORK, GENEVA AND ELSEWHERE. HE STRESSED THAT WE COULD ALSO ANTICIPATE FAR LESS EFFICIENCY FROM SECRETARIAT PERSONNEL WHO COULD FREQUENTLY BE PULLED AWAY FROM THEIR DESKS TO STAFF CONFERENCES IN FAR-OFF PLACES.

2. LEWIS SAID WE UNDERSTOOD THAT INDIA WAS ONE OF THREE OR FOUR COUNTRIES PLANNING TO PUSH THIS PROPOSAL IN NEW YORK THIS WEEK. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE TERRIBLY DAMAGING TO THE UN'S ABILITY TO DO ITS WORK. IT COULD

ALSO LEAD TO INCREASED TROUBLE WITH OUR CONGRESS, WHICH MIGHT OBJECT TO PAYING OUR SHARE OF THESE COSTS.

3. SINGH REPLIED THAT THE POINTS MADE SEEMED VERY VALID. HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH INDIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UN JAIPAL AND THAT HE WOULD ALSO REPORT OUR VIEWS TO HIS GOVERNMENT.

KISSINGER

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